

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Security Information

10 December 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. DULLES

At meeting last week the Senior NSC Staff agreed that the Executive Secretary should prepare a draft memorandum for Senior Staff consideration on the problem of CONGRESSIONAL PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION OF ADVANTAGE TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS. NSC agreed in May 1951 that disclosures of information in the following five categories are detrimental to national security:

1. Information, sometimes classified, which is concerned with internal security and received by Congressional committee in executive session;
2. Information received in connection with hearings on appropriations or on proposed legislation;
3. Information obtained by members of Congress while participating as observers in government operations;
4. Information of strategic and technological value to national security which is distributed to Iron Curtain countries by Library of Congress on basis of so-called library exchange agreements; and
5. Information obtained by Government Printing Office from legislative sources and issued in Government Printing Office publications publicly available.

ATTACHED, for Senior NSC Staff consideration, is Mr. Lay's draft memorandum to inform NSC that the Senior Staff has reached the following conclusions:

Direct approaches to the Congress or key members thereof should not be initiated at this time, since such approaches would probably not succeed in accomplishing the purposes intended.

Concerning category 4 above (library exchange agreements), further action should await completion of a study on this matter now in preparation by Interdepartmental Committee on Internal Security.

Concerning category 5 above, each department or agency should be directed to exercise greater care in the pre-publication screening of information to be released to the Government Printing Office for publication.

Concerning categories 1, 2, and 3, each department or agency furnishing to members of Congress or Congressional Committees information having national security significance, or inviting members of Congress to observe government operations, should be directed to emphasize to such members or Committees on a continuing basis, the necessity of preventing disclosures of information of advantage to foreign governments.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Ref: FR 2-4016

2 11016

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION

December 10, 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SENIOR NSC STAFF

SUBJECT: Congressional Publication of Information of
Advantage to Foreign Governments

REFERENCES: A. NSC Action No. 478
B. Memos for NSC from Executive Secretary,
same subject, dated May 16 and June 15, 1951
C. Record of Meeting of Senior NSC Staff,
December 4, 1951, item 2

The enclosed draft memorandum on the subject,
prepared in this office to reflect the conclusions agreed upon
by the Senior Staff at its meeting on December 4, is trans-
mitted herewith for consideration by the Senior Staff at an
early meeting.

S. EVERETT GLEASON
Acting Executive Secretary

CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION

D R A F T

CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION

For NSC Staff Consideration Only

December , 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Congressional Publication of Information of
Advantage to Foreign Governments

REFERENCES: A. Memo for NSC from Executive Secretary,
same subject, dated May 16, 1951
B. NSC Action No. 478
C. Memo for NSC from Executive Secretary,
same subject, dated June 15, 1951

After further consideration, which has emphasized both the serious nature of the subject problem and the difficulties and disadvantages connected with attempts to effect a general solution, the Senior NSC Staff has reached the following conclusions which are submitted herewith for consideration by the National Security Council in lieu of the recommendations contained in Reference C:

1. Direct approaches to the Congress or key Members thereof on the general problem ^{are not} ~~should~~ ~~recommended~~ ~~not be initiated~~ at this time, since in all probability such approaches would not succeed in accomplishing the purposes intended.
2. With respect to information distributed to foreign governments by the Library of Congress on the basis of library exchange agreements (the fourth category listed in the enclosure to Reference A), further action should await

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION

completion of a study of the matter which is now in preparation by the Interdepartmental Committee on Internal Security.

3. With respect to the remaining categories listed in the enclosure to Reference A:
 - a. Each department or agency concerned should be directed to exercise greater care in the pre-publication screening, from the standpoint of national security, of information to be released to the Government Printing Office for publication (category five).
 - b. Each department or agency furnishing to Members of Congress or Congressional Committees information having national security significance, or inviting Members of Congress to observe government operations, should be directed to emphasize to such Members of Congress or Congressional Committees, on a continuing basis, the necessity of preventing disclosures of information of advantage to foreign governments (categories one, two and three).

JAMES S. LAY, Jr.
Executive Secretary

cc: The Secretary of the Treasury
The Attorney General
The Director of Defense Mobilization

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
SECURITY INFORMATION

3 December 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. DULLES

BACKGROUND. In May 1951 NSC considered a memorandum from Mr. Coyne, NSC Representative on Internal Security, on CONGRESSIONAL PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION OF ADVANTAGE TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS, and NSC agreed that disclosures of information in the following five categories are detrimental to national security:

(1) Information, sometimes classified, which is concerned with internal security and received by Congressional committee in executive session;

(2) Information received in connection with hearings on appropriations or on proposed legislation;

(3) Information obtained by members of Congress while participating as observers in government operations;

(4) Information of strategic and technological value to national security which is distributed to Iron Curtain countries by Library of Congress on basis of so-called library exchange agreements; and

(5) Information obtained by Government Printing Office from legislative sources and issued in Government Printing Office publications publicly available.

NSC directed Senior NSC Staff to prepare recommendations for Council consideration.

A Senior NSC Staff memorandum of 15 June 1951, which recommended that the President direct letters to the Vice President and Speaker of the House of Representatives to indicate NSC concern over Congressional disclosures of the five categories of information, was not submitted to NSC for consideration but was reconsidered by the Senior NSC Staff.

THE ATTACHED MEMORANDUM, prepared in Mr. Lay's office for Senior NSC Staff consideration proposes that the NSC recommend to the President that:

Attention of appropriate representatives of Congress be informally invited to the concern expressed over disclosures of information in the five categories. (Listed at top of this page).

If after such notification the advice of the Executive Branch is requested, services of competent officials in the Executive Branch be made available to representatives of the Congress to aid in jointly arriving at solutions of those aspects of the problems which are of common concern to both the Legislative and Executive Branches.

[Signature]
FNU

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON

December 3, 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SENIOR NSC STAFF

SUBJECT: Congressional Publication of Information of
Advantage to Foreign Governments

REFERENCES: A. Memos for NSC from Executive Secretary,
same subject, dated May 16 and June 15, 1951
B. NSC Action No. 478
C. Records of Meeting of Senior NSC Staff,
June 14, 1951, item 2; July 5, 1951, item 3;
November 20, 1951, item 2 a

The enclosed draft memorandum on the subject,
prepared in this office in the light of the discussion by
the Senior Staff at its meeting on November 20, is transmitted
herewith for consideration by the Senior Staff at its meeting
on Tuesday, December 4, 1951, in connection with its further
consideration of the subject, as agreed on at the meeting of
November 20, with a view to completing or recommending can-
cellation of this project.

JAMES S. LAY, Jr.
Executive Secretary

CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION

CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION

D R A F T

December __, 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Congressional Publication of Information of
Advantage to Foreign Governments

REFERENCES: A. Memo for NSC from Executive Secretary, same
subject, dated May 16, 1951
B. NSC Action No. 478
C. Memo for NSC from Executive Secretary, same
subject, dated June 15, 1951

After further consideration of the subject, the Senior NSC Staff proposes, in lieu of the proposal contained in Reference C, that the National Security Council recommend to the President that:

1. The attention of appropriate representatives of the Congress be informally invited to the concern which has been expressed over disclosures of information [in the five categories listed in the enclosure to Reference A,] which disclosures are felt to be detrimental to the national security.

2. If after such notification the advice of the Executive Branch is requested, there be made available to representatives of the Congress the services of competent officials in the executive Branch to aid in jointly arriving at solutions to those aspects of the problems outlined in the five categories which are of common concern to both the Legislative and Executive Branches.

JAMES S. LAY, Jr.
Executive Secretary

CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION